



West Allis Crosstown Connector Benefits

- The West Allis Cross Town Connector (CTC) would **LINK** West Allis and regional residents to **EMPLOYMENT** and **RECREATION** options.
- The CTC would increase **SAFETY**:
 - Off-road trails are safest possible option for bikers and recreational users.
 - Painted bike lanes and marked routes provide greater visual cues to the presence of commuters and increase use.
 - The trail would provide two, paved crossings over the railroad with increased vision clearance and fencing.
 - Two existing crossings are unpaved, not perpendicular and have low-visibility (i.e. unsafe)
 - The bridge over Hwy 100 would transport trail users above 35,000 vehicles traveling per day on Hwy 100.
- Bike and Recreation trails, such as the Oak Leaf Trail and Hank Aaron State Trail, are highly popular with residents and build greater **COMMUNITY** connections and increase **HEALTHY** lifestyle options; the CTC would expand this network to residents of West Allis.
- The CTC represents an opportunity to capitalize upon an existing federal **INVESTMENT** in a local infrastructure project to increase West Allis' livability, vitality and competitiveness with other regions.





Project Description

- Approximate 6-mile bicycle/recreation trail traversing the City of West Allis
- Priority project within SEWRPC 2020 Regional Bicycle Plan
- Regional east/west link from Madison to Downtown Milwaukee / Lakefront
- Local east/west link connecting New Berlin Recreation Trail, Oak Leaf Trail and Hank Aaron State Trail within West Allis
- 2.3 mile 10-ft. wide off-street path between S. 124th St. and S. 98th St. on WeEnergies right-of-way
- Bridge crossing over Hwy 100
- Two paved, at-grade crossings of the Union Pacific Railroad
- Paved path underneath I-894

Funding

- Full project cost, approximately \$3 million
 - \$1.85 million for trail work / \$1.1 million for bridge over Hwy 100
- 80% funded (\$2.3 million) through already-obtained federal grant allocations
 - \$589,700 SMIP / \$1,567,200 CMAQ / \$240,000 SAFETEA LU
- 20% (\$527,000) local match
 - \$187,000 CDBG / \$340,000 City of West Allis

Planning / Next Steps

- Identified in SEWRPC 2020 Regional Bicycle Plan (1994 and 2001)
- In 2004, the West Allis Cross-Town Connector Bike Trail was ranked first by a group of legislators, state officials, and a citizen convened by WisDOT, and was quickly approved by the WisDOT Secretary.
- Project approved by West Allis Common Council on March 17, 2005
- June 1, 2005: City met with Union Pacific to discuss suggested tunnel option, which is ultimately rejected by RR due to interruption in service
- Studied numerous alternatives to crossing the railroad, including bridges and tunnels, both which were shown to be infeasible
 - At grade crossings were shown to be safest, quickest and most cost-effective
- November 10, 2011: City obtains license from WeEnergies to utilize land for trail, also occupied by the Union Pacific Railroad under a similar license
- November 2013: City opens phase 1 of trail between S. 124th St. and Hwy 100.
- Currently awaiting decision regarding City's appeal to the OCR to cross Railroad tracks
- 2018: Expected completion of bridge over Hwy 100

